



STATE OF INDIANA
INDIANA STATE EXCISE POLICE

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For Immediate Release

Excise Officers Arrest Man for Bootlegging

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (Oct. 21) – Indiana State Excise Police officers arrested a Granger man for bootlegging at a convenience store in South Bend on Oct. 17.

Around 8:00 p.m., excise police officers arrested Patrick Joseph O'Brien, 42, of Granger, after they saw him selling liquor out of his car at Olive Mini Mart, 421 N. Olive Street, in South Bend. O'Brien told excise officers his girlfriend – currently incarcerated for shoplifting in Michigan – stole the liquor bottles he was unlawfully selling.

Selling alcoholic beverages without a permit issued by the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, commonly called "bootlegging," violates Indiana law.

O'Brien was preliminarily charged with maintaining a common nuisance (felony), sale of alcohol without a permit (misdemeanor) and unauthorized dealings (misdemeanor).

As the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, the primary mission of the Indiana State Excise Police is to promote public safety by enforcing Indiana's Alcoholic Beverage Code. While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related laws.

All criminal defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.